(ii) Soft loans given for setting up of grading/ processing centres, auction platforms, ripening/ curing chambers and quality testing equipment;

(iii) Grant of financial assistance for improved packaging and strengthening of quality control;

(iv) Establishment of walk-in-type cold storage for export consignments awaiting clearance;

(v) Setting us of Air cargo facilities for cargo booking and customs clearance facilities under one roof;

(vi) Setting up of dedicated cargo handling facilities for perishables at airports;

(vii) Establishment of vapour heat treatment facilities for improved acceptability of the products;

(viii) Implementation of a UNDP Project on Floriculture for enhancing productivity and exports of floriculture products particularly cut flowers;

(ix) Provision of air freight subsidy for selected floricultural, horticultural products and fresh vegetables;

(x) Organisation of export promotion activities such as buyer-seller meets and participation in Internal Trade Fairs/Exhibitons.

Funds for Community Development

500. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to the Central Coal Fields Limited for community development during the last three years and during the current year;

(b) the number of Developmental Works executed/to be executed out of the funds allocated; and

(c) the existing rule for utilisation of funds for community development?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) The funds allocated since 94–95 for community development in CCL is as under:

1994–95	Rs. 119.50 Lakhs
1995–96	Rs. 93.00 Lakhs
1996–97	Rs. 88.20 Lakhs
1997–98	Rs. 90.00 Lakhs

(b) The number of development works executed during 1994–95 to 1996–97 and target for 1997–98 is as under:

1994–95	124
1995–96	224
1996–97	183
1997–98	240

(c) Funds for community development are utilised under community development plan, tribal sub plan and special component plan for the overall development of collieries and its surroundings.

Loan by H.P. Government

501. SHRI SUKH RAM : Will the Minister of FINANCE pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh had raised loans aggregating to Rs. 424.85 crores during 1994–95 through H.P.S.E.B. and paid Rs. 34.02 crores as interest on these loans besides Rs. 1.97 crores had been paid as service charges;

(b) if so, whether the Government of Himachal Pradesh violated Article 293(3) of the Constitution of India by raising loan without concurrence of the Union Government as pointed out in C&AG Report for the year ended 31st March, 1995 No. 3; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) This has been reported by the CAG in his Report No. 3 of Himachal Pradesh for the period ending 31.3.1995.

(b) and (c) Article 293(3) of the Constitution of India prohibits raising of loans by the State Governments if there is any outstanding loan which has been made to the State Government by the Government of India or in respect of which a guarantee has been given by the Government of India except with the consent of Government of India. The report of the CAG had pointed out that in the instant case loan was raised by HPSEB though it was stated to be not for the purpose related to HPSEB. The report of the CAG has already been placed before the State Legislature for necessary action.

Airport Tax

502. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH :
SHRI G.M. BANATWALIA :
SHRI P.C. THOMAS :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: